

Atty Dkt. No.: 10010902-1
USSN: 10/022,065

REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections and allow Claims 1-40, 47-52 and 55-62, the only claims pending and currently under examination in this application.

Claim 53 has been amended to remove the word "substantially". The amendment to the claim was made solely in the interest of expediting prosecution, and is not to be construed as acquiescence to any objection or rejection of the claim and without intent to surrender any subject matter encompassed by the originally filed claim (i.e., the pre-amended claim). The Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue any subject matter encompassed by the originally filed claim in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

Claims 2 and 20 have been amended to correct typographical errors.

Claims 41-46 have been cancelled. The cancellation of claims is made without prejudice to renewal, without intent to acquiesce to any rejection, and without intent to surrender any subject matter encompassed by the canceled claims. The Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue any canceled subject matter in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

Claims 63-68 have been added as new. Support for these claims may be found in the specification and originally filed claims, e.g., originally filed claims 2-7.

The specification has been amended to correct informalities and to update the status of attorney docket numbers and US application serial numbers. The Examiner notes that an attorney docket number is at page 15, line 17. The Applicants cannot find any attorney docket number at page 15, line 17. However, all other instances of attorney docket numbers found in the specification have been updated.

As no new matter has been added by the above amendments, the Applicants respectfully request entry thereof.

OBJECTIONS

Claim 2 has been objected to because of a misspelling. Claim 2 has been amended to correct the misspelled words in the claim. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

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REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 53 and 54 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner asserts that the word "substantially frictionless" is indefinite. Solely in order to expedite prosecution of the present application and without in any way agreeing with the Examiner's asserted position, Claim 53, from which Claim 54 depends, has been amended to remove the word "substantially". The frictionless holding elements are well described in the specification, e.g., the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9. One of ordinary skill will appreciate from this that "frictionless" does not imply that holding elements are completely free of friction. In view of the above-described amendments to Claims 53 and 54, the Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

The applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (650) 327-3400.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, and authorize the Commissioner to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1078, Order Number 10010902-1, for any fees due in connection with the filing of this document.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/22/04

By: [Signature]
Susan C. Tall
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